

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2012 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Bill 1270
Appropriations

(Delegate Vitale, *et al.*)

Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2008 - Anne Arundel County -
Goshen House

This bill extends the deadline – from June 1, 2012, to June 1, 2013, – for the Board of Directors of the Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc., as grantee, to present evidence that a matching fund will be provided for the Goshen House project as required by the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2008 (as amended by Chapter 372 of 2010). The bill also repeals the requirement that the grantee convey an historic easement.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2012.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect the finances or operations of Anne Arundel County.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 336 of 2008 authorized up to \$150,000 in matching funds as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Inc. for the planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, emergency stabilization, and capital equipping of the Goshen House located in Cape St. Claire, subject to the requirement that the grantee grant and convey an historic easement to the

Maryland Historical Trust. Matching funds may consist of real property, in-kind contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of June 1, 2008. Chapter 372 of 2010 extended the deadline – from June 1, 2010, to June 1, 2012, – for the grantee to present evidence that a matching fund will be provided.

Background: The historic Goshen farm, located adjacent to St. Claire Elementary School, is one of the few examples left of a colonial farm in Anne Arundel County. The main farmhouse (Goshen House) was built in approximately 1790, and four additions to the rear of the building have been made over the years. Around 1942 the Maryland State Archivist, Dr. Morris Leon Radoff, purchased the property with his wife. At that time, Goshen House was still without electricity and it remained that way until after World War II. Dr. Radoff fought hard to preserve the property, but he sold some of the farm to the Anne Arundel Board of Education to build an elementary school in 1967. In 1975, the school board compelled Dr. Radoff to sell it the remaining land for a junior high school. Dr. Radoff set up a living trust so that he and his wife could live the remainder of their lives in Goshen House. Dr. Radoff died in 1977, and his wife died in 1991. Between 1991 and 2005, a series of caretakers lived in the house.

The grantee reports that it took four years for the Anne Arundel Board of Education to agree to lease the property. During that period, the grantee reports it suspended active fundraising. When the school board signed the lease in September 2010, the grantee reports it began active fundraising and now has approximately \$22,000 cash on hand and \$96,000 in pledged in-kind services from an electrician, a plumber, and a roofer. The grantee reports with the extra time it anticipates being able to raise the full amount of the required match.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SB 1007 (Senator Astle) – Budget and Taxation.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County, Department of General Services, Goshen Farm Preservation Society, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 9, 2012
mlm/ljm

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